

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested. Claims 1, 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 16 and 25 have been amended. Claims 1-25 are in this application and are presented for the Examiner's consideration in view of the following comments.

Applicants note with appreciation that claims 1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 12 and 13 have been allowed.

Claims 3, 5, 6 and 7 have been objected to by the Examiner. In particular, claim 3 has been objected to because of the abbreviation "BER". As requested by the Examiner, Applicants have changed this abbreviation to "ByER". As a result, Applicants respectfully submit that the objection to claim 3, and claims 5, 6 and 7, which depend from claim 3, has been removed. In addition, although not cited by the Examiner, Applicants have made a similar amendment to claim 11.

Claims 10-11 and 14-25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Applicants have amended claims 10, 11, 14, 16 and 27.

With respect to claims 10 and 11, these claims have been rejected because of the lack of antecedent basis for the term "said RS decoder". Applicants have amended claims 10 and 11 to depend from claim 9, which provides clear antecedent basis for the term "said RS decoder".

With respect to claim 14, this claim has been rejected because of the lack of antecedent basis for the term "said comparison signal". Applicants have amended claim 14 to state "said comparator for monitoring a comparison signal". Claim 1 provides clear antecedent basis for the phrase "said comparator".

With respect to claim 16, this claim has been rejected because of the lack of antecedent basis for the term "the superior mode". Applicants have amended claim 16 to state "a superior mode".

With respect to claim 25, this claim has been rejected because of the lack of antecedent basis for the term "said lock signal". Applicants have amended claim 16 to state "a lock signal".

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In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claims 10, 11, 14, 16 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, has been removed. As a result, the basis of the rejection of claims 15 and 17-24 has also been removed.

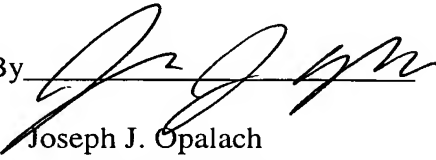
In addition, the Examiner should note that Applicants have amended the specification to correct a mistake in the citation to the U.S. Provisional Patent Application. The correct Provisional Patent Application number is 60/373,205. No new matter has been added.

Further, Applicants have also amended claims 1, 8, 9, 10 and 16, in the interests of clarity with respect to various abbreviation used in the claims. Applicants' representative notes that some of these clarifications were inadvertently removed in Applicants' preliminary amendment of October 15, 2004. In particular, claim 1 has been amended to clarify the abbreviations "DFE", "dd" and "ByER"; claim 8 has been amended to clarify the abbreviation "FEC"; claim 9 has been amended to clarify the abbreviation "RS"; claim 10 has been amended to clarify the abbreviation "USR" and claim 16 has been amended to clarify the abbreviations "DFE", "FEC" and "ByER".

As it is believed that all of the objections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Applicants' attorney in order to overcome any additional objections that the Examiner might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 07-0832 therefor.

Respectfully submitted
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Patent Operations
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on:

6-7-06

Date

Karen Schleich